

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Presently amended): A method of detecting the presence of one or more allele specific anti-Major Histo-Compatibility Complex (MHC) antibodies in a body fluid sample the method comprising:

(a) contacting said sample with one or more immobilized recombinant MHC molecules which each bind to a different allele specific MHC antibody, if present in said sample, and

(b) detecting binding or absence of binding of said one or more allele specific antibodies to only said recombinant MHC molecules, wherein each of said one or more allele specific antibodies is specific for a particular naturally occurring MHC allele and binds to only one of said one or more recombinant MHC molecules which contains one or more epitopes of said naturally occurring MHC allele.

2. (Presently amended): A method of detecting the presence of one or more allele specific anti-Human Leukocyte Antigen (HLA) antibodies in a body fluid sample the method comprising:

(a) contacting said sample with one or more immobilized recombinant HLA molecules which each bind a different allele specific HLA antibody, if present in said sample, and

(b) detecting binding or absence of binding of said one or more allele specific antibodies to only said recombinant HLA molecules, wherein each of said one or more specific antibodies is

each specific for a particular HLA allele and binds to only one of said one or more recombinant HLA molecules which contains one or more epitopes of said naturally occurring HLA allele.

3. (Original): The method as claimed in claim 1 or 2 wherein said MHC or HLA molecule is a Class I MHC or HLA molecule.

4. (Previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said recombinant MHC or HLA molecule comprises a heavy chain and wherein the heavy chain of said MHC or HLA molecule is recombinant.

5. (Original): The method as claimed in claim 1 or 2 wherein the antibodies which are detected are IgG, IgM or IgA.

6. (Previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 3 wherein said recombinant MHC or HLA molecule comprises a heavy chain, β_2 -microglobulin and peptide.

7. (Original): A method as claimed in claim 6 wherein said peptide is derived from HIV, HCV or an influenza virus.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)
11. (Original): The method of claim ~~9 or 10~~ 1 or 2 wherein said ~~solid support is~~
recombinant molecules are immobilized on a spherical bead.
12. (Original): The method of claim ~~9 or 10~~ 1 or 2 wherein said ~~solid support is~~
recombinant molecules are immobilized on a nitrocellulose strip.
13. (Original): The method of claim ~~9 or 10~~ 1 or 2 wherein said ~~solid support is~~
recombinant molecules are immobilized on an ELISA plate.
14. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the recombinant MHC is synthesized
in a prokaryotic expression system.
15. (Original): The method of claim 2 wherein the recombinant HLA is synthesized
in a prokaryotic expression system.
16. (Previously presented): The method of claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the body fluid
sample is blood or a blood-derived sample.
17. (Previously presented): The method as defined in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the
bound antibody is detected by an immunosorbent assay using an antibody conjugated to a
signaling means.

18-19. (Canceled)

20. (Presently amended): A kit comprising at least the following components:

- (a) one or more immobilized recombinant MHC molecules which each bind to a different allele specific MHC antibody, wherein each of said one or more allele specific antibodies is specific for a particular naturally occurring MHC allele and binds to only one of said one or more recombinant MHC molecules which contains one or more epitopes of said naturally occurring MHC allele; and
- (b) a means for detecting anti-MHC antibodies bound to only said recombinant MHC molecules.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously presented): A kit as claimed in claim 20 which further comprises a solid support attached to the MHC molecules.

23. (Canceled).

24. (Previously presented): A kit as claimed in claim 22, wherein said solid support is a spherical bead.

25. (Previously presented): A method as claimed in claim 1 or 2 wherein said recombinant MHC or HLA molecule is in the form of a fusion protein.

26. (Previously presented): A method as claimed in claim 25, wherein said recombinant MHC or HLA molecule is fused to a means of immobilization.

27. (Previously presented): A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein said means of immobilization is biotin.

28. (Canceled).

29. (Previously presented): A kit as claimed in claim 22, wherein said solid support is an ELISA plate.